

2851

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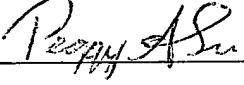
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

TRANSMITTAL FORM <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	09/927,683
		Filing Date	August 9, 2001
		First Named Inventor	NOVAK, W. Thomas
		Group Art Unit	2851
		Examiner Name	ESPLIN, David
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	NRCAP004

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Return Postcard <input type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
Remarks		The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 50-1652.

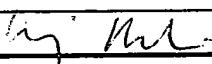
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm and Individual name	RITTER, LANG & KAPLAN LLP Peggy A. Su, Reg. No. 41,336	
Signature		
Date	January 16, 2004	

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Kimberly Melvin
Kimberly Melvin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appln. No.	:	09/927,683	Confirmation No.:	6484
Applicant	:	NOVAK, W. Thomas		
Filed	:	August 9, 2001		
TC/A.U.	:	2851		
Examiner	:	ESPLIN, David		
Docket No.	:	NRCAP004		
Customer No.	:	26541		
Title	:	VACUUM COMPATIBLE AIR BEARING STAGE		

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AMENDMENT A

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 16, 2003, the period for response which extends through January 16, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 13 of this paper.